



Small Town. Real Life.

April 30, 2014

Citizens of Duvall

RE: POTENTIAL CITY HALL

Dear Community:

I hope this letter finds you well. I thought I'd create this to try and answer a recent question that was posed on Facebook. For those that do not know, Public Information is a very big deal and we as a City must provide records should they be created which at this time is why we do not post responses on Facebook and only provide information from our own page. Briefly, the City is in the beginning phase of its work online with Facebook as we have a City page, a police page and we are in the process of updating our website which should provide a much improved way of sharing information.

The City is responsible for nine (9) buildings and one (1) property outside of the utility and parks departments (not including Big Rock Park, Water tank sites and the like). Some of the buildings are used by city staff & departments, a historical site (Dougherty Farm), or rented out to others. Some facilities are aging and in need of repairs, some are utilized by the community at large (Visitors Center) or we are simply growing out some like the City Hall. Our goal is to provide the best services to the community in facilities that accommodate our current and future needs.

We have been discussing ALL of our city facilities over the past year. We started by analyzing operating and capital costs of each facility and then began updating city policies. The citywide goals and policies for facilities were reviewed, discussed and reconfirmed to aid in the long term needs of the community we serve. After the policy work, we began individual assessments of all buildings and properties. We began work last year with staff and the entire council, after high level discussions we decided a small group would have a better opportunity to get invested in the project which is why we utilized a committee for this

project. The committee is made up of staff and three Councilmembers who then report and share progress with the Council.

Now for the City Hall...We have known for a while that we are at capacity at that this site and it will not accommodate any additional staff members. We would like to consolidate staff to make it easier for our citizens as well as visitors to access city services. We feel we can accommodate the community and staff better in the future if we were in a larger, multi-purposed building for staff and the community's use. We have seen the desire and variety of users that the Visitors Center provides and would like to accommodate that for the future within a City Hall. The current Visitors Center is in a building that has a deep history with the Civic Club and the community. The Visitors Center's use is not currently being assessed but will be during the process.

Should you like to provide the City input, we will be hosting hearings on the topic of a City Hall / Community Center in the upcoming months. Please check our council schedules on our website or reach out to me or the Council members to connect.

Sincerely,

Will Ibershof
Mayor